men have been appointed in the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof during last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sahba.

(c) Does not arise.

Requirement of Funds for Daitari-Banspani Railway Lines

5263. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government for early provision of funds for the completion of Daitari-Banspani railway line by December, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the required fund is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Daitari-Banspani line would be completed by Dec. '99 to match the time frame required for servicing the Steel Plants coming up in the area. Funds would be arranged and work progressed to match this target.

IA Services Withdrawn from Madurai

5264. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines have withdrawn some of its services originating from Madurai to other destinations and effected some changes in the original schedule;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government are aware of the inconvenience caused to the businessmen/traders and other passengers alongwith its impact on the revenue side?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to make IA's operations economically viable and to provide direct terminator services between Mumbai/Coimbatore and Mumbai/Madurai, the triangular service Mumbai/Coimbatore/Madurai/Mumbai was split into separate services, resulting in delinking of Coimbatore/Madurai sector. Calicut/Madurai/Channai services were also rescheduled to operate terminator services between Chennai/Madurai, delinking Madurai/Calicut. The average number of passengers per flight on Coimbatore/Madurai and Madurai/Calicut/Madurai sector are as under:-

	Jan '97	Feb '97	Mar '97
Coimbatore/Madurai	07	04	05
Madurai/Calicut	08	03	01
Calicut/Madurai	03	02	03

(c) Some representations have been received from businessmen and traders in respect of the changes in schedule. However, better and increased connections are now available between Mumbai and Mudurai.

Petitions Filed by the Booking Clerks in Supreme Court

5265. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petitions filed in the Supreme Court by the permanent, temporary, casual and mobile booking clerks during the last three years;

(b) the number of petitions decided and the number of petitions lying pending;

(c) the number of cases decided in favour of employees and the number of cases decided in favour of the Government;

(d) the number of decisions implemented in favour of employees and the number of decisions which are under the consideration; and

(e) the details of the cases relating to Northern Railways under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (e) The information is being collected from the Zonal Railways and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Promotion of Tourism in Andhra Pradesh

5266. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a Rs. 100 crores comprehensive plan to the Union Government to develop tourism in the State;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered the plan;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have agreed to give financial assistance to implement the said plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (d) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has prepared a Master Plan for the development of tourism with a long

term perspective. The Central financial assistance to State Govts. is based on specific proposal received, their merits, inter-se priorities and availability of funds. During 1996-97, the Deptt. of Tourism sanctioned 7 projects amounting to Rs. 125.50 lakhs to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for tourism projects.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Telegraph Service in Rajasthan

5267. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken steps for strengthening and modernising the telegraph services in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, District-wise;

(c) the budget provision made in this regard during the last and the current year separately; and

(d) the time by which telegraph services are likely to be modernised in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Telegraph services have been modernised by induction of microprocessor based technology involving equipments like store and forward message switching systems (SFMSS), Formatted Terminal concentrators (FTCs), Electronic Key Board Concentrators (EKBCs), Fax etc. District-wise details are given in the statement attached.

(c) No separate budgetary allocations are made for the modernisation of Telegraph Services.

(d) Modernisation of telegraph services in Rajasthan has already been done to a great extent. However, it is an ongoing Process.

Statement

Modernisation of Telegraph Services at a glance in Rajasthan Circle as on 31.03.97

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Telegraph Equipments installed in Telegraph Offices					
		SFMS System	EKBC	FKB TMLs	Electronic TPs	No. of Bureau Fax Centres	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Jaipur	SFMS-64-L (S/L) = 01	04	32	12	16	-
2.	Dausa	-	-	04	01	01	-
3.	Sawaimadhopur	-	01	03	04	04	-
4.	Tonk	-	-	-	02	02	-
5.	Bundi	-	-	03	01	01	-
6.	Kota	-	02	08	05	04	-
7.	Baran	-	-	-	01	01	-
8.	Jhalawar	-	-	-	02	02	-
9.	Jodhpur	SFMS-32-L (Roman) = 01	03	11	09	04	-
10.	Dholpur	-	-	-	01	01	-
11.	Bharatpur	-	01	10	02	02	-
12.	Sikar	-	01	08	04	02	-
13.	Alwar	-	01	10	04	04	-
14.	Jhunjhunu	-	01	08	08	04	-
15.	Churu	-	02	10	04	03	-
16.	Nagaur	-	02	17	07	02	-
17.	Bikaner	-	02	07	05	02	-